(d) The services of Advisor (Mining) were discontinued by DVC on 13.05.2005 after expiry of his contract period.

Rationalization of the power tariff rates

2385. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that with privatization of power distribution in different States, the power tariffs have gone away with the result that while a consumer consuming 100 units in Delhi pays Rs. 252 against just Rs. 99 in Mumbai and double what one pays in Chennai;

(b) if so, the comparative tariff for 100, 200, 400 and 600 units in the different metropolis;

(c) the reasons for such vastly different discriminative tariffs; and

(d) the steps taken and being taken to rationalize the traiff rates in different metropolis and States, so as to bring down the rates especially for the domestic and agricultural sector?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) As per available information the estimated average rate of power for domestic consumers in the category of 100, 200, 400 and 600 KWh/pm in Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai (Tamil Nadu) are as under:

Paise/KWh

Name of the Metropolis	Tariff effective from	100 KWh/pm	200 KWh/pm	400 KWh/pm	600 KWh/pm
Delhi					
1. New Dehli Municipal Corporation	1.6.2001	158.00	189.50	252.25	294.17
2. North Delhi Power Ltd./BSES Rajdhani/BSES Yamuna	15.7.2005*	277.60	264.60	346.50	394.10

*Subsequently, the Government of NCT of Delhi has decided under section 65 of the Electricity Act, 2003 to subsidise 50% of the hike in the domestic category tariff caused by order of DERC dated 07.07.2005 for a period of one year w.e.f. 15.07.2005. Further, as per DERC order dated 23.09.2005, the Distribution Companies are providing incentive to domestic category consumers so that remaining 50% of tariff hike is neutralized.

Paise/KWh

Name of the Metropolis	Tariff effective from	100 KWh/pm	200 KWh/pm	400 KWh/pm	600 KWh/pm
Mumbai					
1. B.E.S.T	15.7.1997	99.00	141.00	299.50	335.00
2. B.S.E.S	1.4.2000	169.56	284.78	451.31	462.86
3. TATA	1.6.2004	181.60	273.03	338.05	378.21
Kolkata	1.4.2005	280.67	355.69	460.28	499.09
Chennai (Tamil Nadu)	16.4.2004	120.00	170.00	216.25	245.83

(c) and (d) Determination of tariff for retail sale of electricity is the statutory function of the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERC) under the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003. The SERC is required to determine the traiff in accordance with the provisions of the Act and after taking into consideration the annual revenue requirement of the licensee and considering the suggestions and objections received from the public, in a transparent manner. The tariff for retail sale of electricity mainly depends on the cost of power purchase/generation, Operation and Maintenance expenses of the licensee and technical and commercial losses in the system.

Under section 65 of the Electricity Act, 2003, the State Government may grant subsidy from its budget to any class of consumers if it so desires in the tariff determined by the Commission.

Supply of power to deficit states by power grid

2386. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Power Ministry and Central Electricity Authority (CEA) have launched a crucial exercise in order to bring in at least 5,696 MW of surplus power available with captive power plants in national grid to tackle increasing power deficit across the country;

(b) whether India has a total installed capacity of captive power of 18,740 MW of which so far 14,636 MW has been connected to grid; and